

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5108

As of February 9, 2011

Title: An act relating to abolishing the council of presidents.

Brief Description: Abolishing the council of presidents.

Sponsors: Senators Benton and Morton.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Higher Education & Workforce Development: 1/26/11.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Staff: Kimberly Cushing (786-7421)

Background: The Council of Presidents (COP) is a voluntary association of the presidents of Washington State's six public baccalaureate degree granting institutions. The COP is established by an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement. The association provides a forum for the presidents and senior administrators of these six institutions to convene, share views, debate issues of common interest, and achieve consensus on issues affecting higher education. The COP also collaborates with other education partners and associations. The Evergreen State College serves as the fiscal agent for the COP. An annual budget is funded equally by each of the six participating member institutions.

Summary of Bill: The Council of Presidents is abolished.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: CON: The COP is a voluntary organization. It convenes hot issues that the sector is focusing on. The COP provides central data resources. It is a true coordinating structure that provides a message and inquiries and responses to the

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Legislature. The COP leverages the expertise and knowledge on separate campuses on a variety of issues and brings the ideas together. The COP offers a coordinating factor that allows it to work with students and faculty and other organizations around the state. Do not abolish the COP.

Persons Testifying: CON: Julie Garver, The Evergreen State College.